



# Bristol LABORATORIES INC.

SYRACUSE 1, NEW YORK

May 18, 1959

AIR MAIL

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

Dear Joshua:

We are currently considering the Stanford Research Institute's proposed program and the final decision will depend to a great extent on what your role will be.

As outlined in the S.R.I. proposal, the program seems quite sensibly set up from a technical point of view. I would suggest relatively minor modifications such as in phase II sending to us partially purified materials for microbiological evaluation. We have a great deal of know-how along these lines from our antibiotic program.

The major point that bothers us is the relatively diffuse nature of the responsibilities of the personnel involved. People of different disciplines are listed but there does not appear to be a person "running" the project. Frankly, I cannot get too excited in having this work done by a group without a vital interest in the outcome. From our experiences, it is going to be a very tricky and tough technical job. Would you be willing to run the project? I am not referring to sitting in on occasional Steering Committee meetings, but rather day-to-day direction of the experimental program. I realize that this is a busy time for you but I also know of your great interest in seeing this approach adequately evaluated.

If you are not able to associate yourself so closely with the program, I think we may be able to do this work considerably cheaper in Japan. Frankly, Josh, the advantage of having S.R.I. do it is your presence there, and it is an advantage only as long as you participate directly in the program.

Please feel free to discuss this matter with the S.R.I. people if you see fit.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

BRISTOL LABORATORIES INC.

Joseph Lein, Director  
Microbiological Research  
Assistant Director of Laboratories

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